



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FERNANDO PARRA PLEADS GUILTY TO OBSCENITY AND PUBLIC CORRUPTION CHARGES

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Fernando Parra pled guilty to obscenity and public corruption charges.

By pleading guilty to obscenity, Parra admitted that for a year beginning in September 2005, he knowingly received, via a computer obscene images.

Parra was also charged today by an one count Information and thereafter pled guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and the Deprivation of the Right to Honest Services. In pleading guilty to those charges, Parra admitted that he deprived the County of El Paso of the right to the honest services of elected officials. He further admitted to conspiring to devise a scheme to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses in an effort to sway the votes of elected members of the El Paso County Commissioner's Court and to engaging in the conspiracy with an elected County official. Those officials agreed to accept cash, trips and payment of debts, in exchange for their support and vote in their official capacity as members of the El Paso County Commissioner's Court and as an elected County official, in violation of their fiduciary duty.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is being prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorneys Debra Kanof and Laura Gregory.

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